THE CLARION

$ 6.95 Vol. 42 No. 1 (#131) Winter 2025

Can I Get Your *"John Hancock"* ?

Autographed Bank Notes Add Unique Touch *Page 27*

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A Message from the President

The past year was very good for PAN. We saw increased membership. Our Fall 2024 Coin Show was a blockbuster with record attendance and a sold-out bourse floor. Our KidZone as always saw many budding young numismatists. The Richard C. Jewell Lecture Series sponsored by Stack's Bower Galleries was very well attended with a great group of lecturers. The series was hosted by our past PAN and current ANA President Tom Uram. Our Competitive Exhibit Area had a nice group of highly qualified exhibits competing for the top spots in their categories. Security reported no major incidents. The team of uniformed and plain clothes folks have been working PAN shows for many years. We have been very fortunate to have this group stay together to protect our shows!

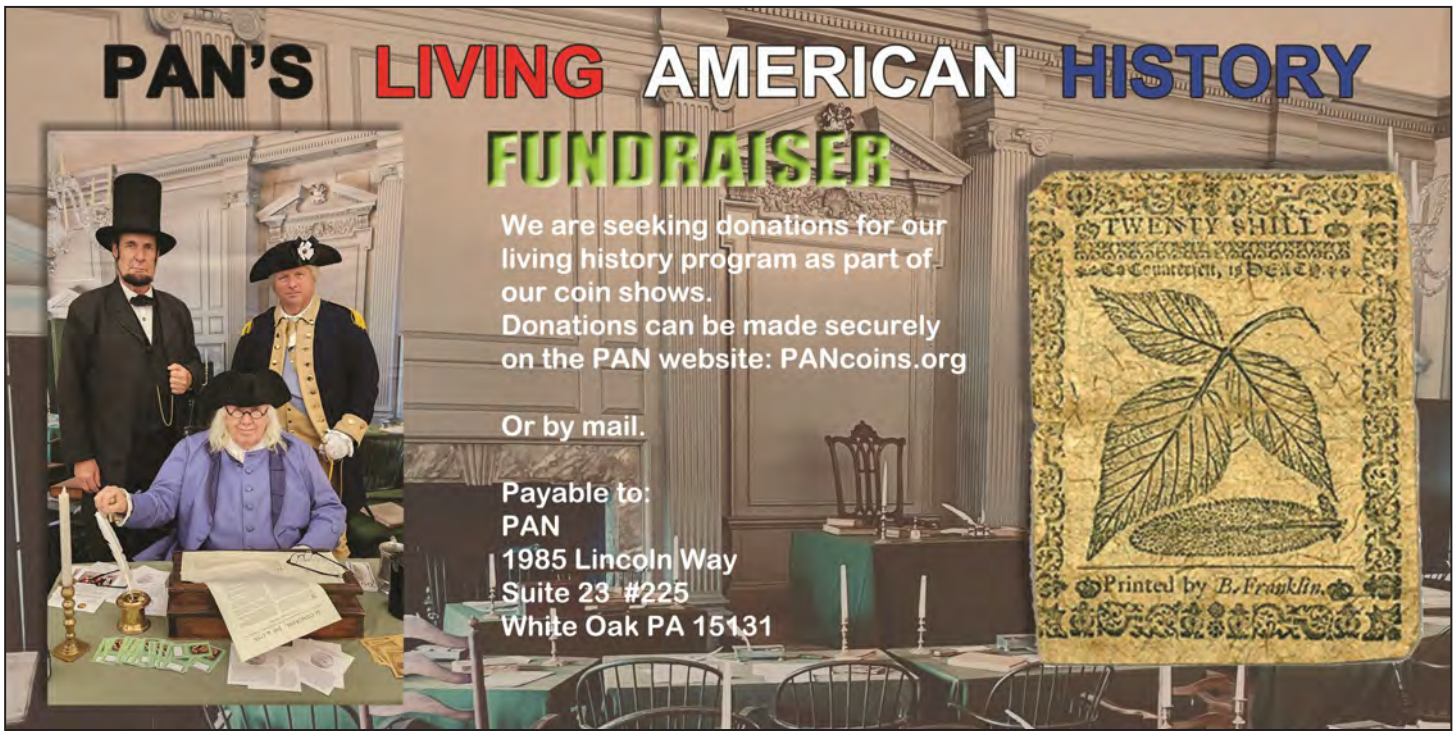
We have decided to only have our Double Eagle Gold raffle at our Fall shows. Once a year will keep sales strong which is vital to fundraising. Selling $10 tickets is hard to keep going every six months. Plus, it gives our ticket sellers a bit of a break.

As many have noticed, this Winter Clarion issue has arrived later than usual. Editor Matt Campbell put together a beautiful issue. The fault lies with myself since I am responsible for the member mail list. I unfortunately had a medical set back with weeks in the hospital and enduring chemo therapy. It has been a bit of a rough ride. February seems to be a little bit better and should allow me time to catch up. A heartfelt thanks to all who have e-mailed and sent cards and prayers for my recovery. I am hoping for a better February. This year, we will showcase the work of Pennsylvania artists on the cover, beginning this issue with Bradley Hendershot. Turn to page 22 for some information on the artist and the painting.

Starting with the spring show May 29-31, keep in mind that our shows will now occupy both sides of the Monroeville Convention Center moving forward. Parking has been a constant challenge in the past and our intent is to have all the parking slots available for our attendees and dealers. This has added a significant expense to our show budget but the numbers seem to work. We had to slightly increase our bourse fees. I am also asking for our show attendees to help by placing a couple bucks into our donation jug at the registration table. Please make an effort to go to the other side (South Gallery) and walk through the lecture, club, exhibit, and living history areas plus any other special displays we provide.

Numismatically,

Pat McBride



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PAN TABLE 701

From the Editor's Desk

I am delighted to start off my second year as editor of The Clarion with an issue bursting with meticulously researched articles as well as inspiring narratives of journeys in numismatics. The issue contains informative academic articles such as Lawrence Korchnak's "Norway's Unique Siege Coin," Malcolm Johnson's "Iceland's Althing Commemoratives," and Clarion regular Mark Benvenuto's "Canada's Real Silver Dollars 1935-1966." Michael V. Hicks gives us the cover story, "Can I Get Your 'John Hancock?' Autographed Bank Notes Add a Unique Touch." Many of us collect banknotes, but Hicks has upped the challenge and the reward by collecting ink autographs to complement the facsimile signatures of all of those Treasury secretaries and others.

On the general numismatic interest but no less engaging side, Paul Schultz shares an ingenious idea for a rewarding collection based on his genealogy that proved to be very difficult to assemble, but surprisingly not at great cost in "Rarity ≠ Cost." For those who have just finished up a collection or typically collect US coins by series, date, and mint and are looking for the next numismatic thread to start weaving, Paul's article is perfect food for thought. Similarly, Dave Lombardo writes in "On the Road: Combining a Love of Coins, Photography, and Travel" about how the America the Beautiful quarters paired perfectly with his long love of travel and photography, and sent him and his camera to a memorable destination he would not have visited otherwise. Rob Throckmorton recounts his childhood introduction to coin collecting with charm rivaling Ralphie in *A Christmas Story*. Many of us invite kids and young people to club meetings and give out buffalo nickels and steel pennies, and sometimes that little effort will create a numismatist like Rob, who encourages us to keep up that effort in "How Three Steel Pennies Helped Me Pay It Forward."

The Spring PAN show is months away, but the Early American Coppers Society (EAC) will hold its convention in Pittsburgh May 14-18. Mark Borckardt, the EAC's historian, contributed an article, "The Lure of Early Copper." Many collectors start off with modern series such as the Morgans, Peace dollars, and Lincolns. Early copper 1793-1857 invites collectors into a world of endless subtypes and varieties. Instead of buying the same Peace dollar but with a different date and mint mark over and over again, collectors must look for numerous varieties, many attainable, of early half cents and cents.

Last, another Christmas meant another round of numismatic gifts for my nieces and nephews. In addition to the regular one-ounce silver coins, we started collections of the American Women quarters a few years ago, leading me to wonder if there's opportunity in selling sets on eBay in "San Francisco Women Quarters—The Secret to Getting Rich? An eBay Analysis." Collecting coins doesn't always have to be a financial opportunity or "side hustle," but a shrewdly assembled coin collection or leveraging of our numismatic knowledge can create value.

> *A good collector can make his collection pay for itself.*

When I was first started to get into coins, a local dealer offered me a piece of advice that has become ingrained and foundational to my collecting. He said, "A good collector can make his collection pay for itself." That's a very lofty goal, but as I house hunt and consider selling off a chunk of my collection to beef up the down payment and expand my possibilities, I see that my carefully chosen collection has appreciated significantly. Let me be honest—Covid and the explosion of collectibles in recent years get the credit, not entirely my collecting prowess. Some cleaned AU Peace dollars bought at Unc prices will attest to that, but who hasn't been fooled by the dastardly Peace dollar and optimistic dealers with rose-colored glasses?

In any case, I want to talk about an economic principle that should be carefully applied to coin collecting—the idea of whether you are the buyer or seller, or more academically, looking at the bid and ask. If you are a collector approaching a dealer at his table and want to see a particular, let's say Trade dollar, you will likely pay a higher "bid" price and get the "it's an awfully nice coin" spiel from the dealer. If you come to a dealer with nothing specific in mind, they might offer you certain coins "they just got in" at an "ask" price. Typically the spread between the bid/ask is thin, meaning you might ask $200, in which case the dealer charges $220. If you weren't the bidder, maybe the dealer's ask is $200 and you pay $180. But, there are many coins where the bid and ask are wildly divergent—especially in modern issues with low mintages.

I worked on the NGC Registry for two years, and part of my job was assigning scores to coins, with value being a major factor. I often had new foreign issues (think Niue, Tuvalu) that were attractive in design and execution and low mintage to the tune of a few hundred or even a few dozen. The original issue price couldn't be trusted, as typically the coins sold out quickly creating a thin secondary market. I would not use sellers' *ask* prices on various websites, but instead looked at realized sales. An ask price might be $500, but when a seller put a coin up for auction and the "bid" prevailed, you might have seen a price realized of $220. That's a huge divergence! So, always remember the situation you are in! If you pay that ask price of $500, you could get burned!

Matt Campbell

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PAN TABLE 502

How three steel pennies helped me pay it forward

by Rob Throckmorton **PAN L 138**

How did you get started collecting coins? Who had an impact on you? My life would have been very different had two gentlemen not taken the time to introduce a skinny, wide-eyed kid to the world of numismatics 45 years ago.

In 1980, Mom occasionally asked me to walk a block and a half to Huskey's Market to pick up dinner for the night. Strange words like clad, obverse, and proof were not yet part of my dialect. Mom regularly instructed me, 'When you get the change for the groceries, keep your eyes open for dimes or quarters that look different around the rim.' I now know that it was only 16 years earlier that the mint changed the metal composition. 'Those older dimes and quarters are worth a lot more.' What? It was hard for a pre-teen to understand how a dime could be worth more than 10 cents. But who was I to argue with Mom? She informed me that those pennies that looked different on the back were also valuable. She called them wheat pennies, and she put them into a jar when I brought them home from Huskey's.

> *'What are those, and why are they in that crazy cardboard thing?!?!' Holy cow, I'd never seen silver-colored pennies before.*

On a regular trip to the store to buy dinner on one normal Thursday in 1980, Mr. Huskey asked me if I was interested in going to a coin club meeting with him that evening. 'Huh, what's a coin club?' Though I had very little interest in going to a boring meeting about what clearly would be a very boring subject, I agreed to go. After all, this mysterious meeting would give me an excuse to delay doing my annoying homework for a while.

Mr. Huskey drove me to the meeting at a local church and introduced me to a man they called the Sergeant at Arms. Mr. Fox greeted me and showed me a display case containing a variety of coins like I'd never seen before. Old, new, proof, clad, shiny, worn, of many denominations and conditions… It was overwhelming. Remembering what Mom had told me over time, my eyes gravitated toward three silver-colored wheat pennies that Mr. Fox had stapled into a small white case that looked to have cellophane over the coins. 'What are those, and why are they in that crazy cardboard thing?!?!' Holy cow, I'd never seen silver-colored pennies before. Frankly, it'd be easy to say that the rest is history. Because, beginning on that one fateful Thursday in 1980, after attending my very first coin club meeting, *I was hooked!*

My first-ever coin purchase from 1980

The next month felt like an eternity. 'Mr. Huskey, when's the next coin club meeting, and are you able to please drive me again?' If Mr. Fox hadn't yet sold those three World War II steel pennies in that thing they called a two by two, my paperboy income would enable me to make my first coin purchase ever.

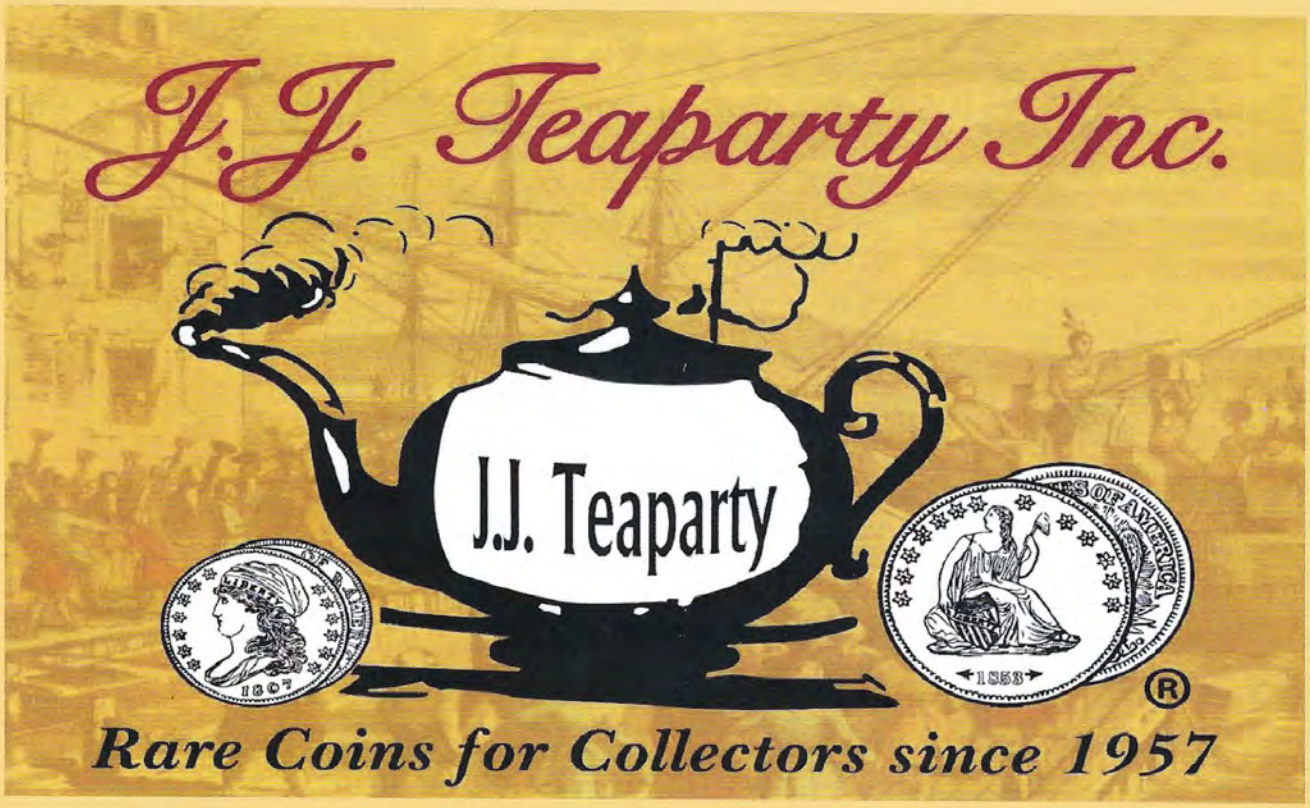
As the school years went on, I anxiously awaited the club's next monthly newsletter arriving in the mail. In these years before the internet and Google, the Red Book helped me research the monthly Junior Quiz to try to win coins for finding the correct answer. And my paper route allowed me to continue to buy more coins at the local coin shop and at each coin club meeting. Attending the meetings in the early 1980s also introduced me to Tom, a fellow young numismatist who became a lifelong friend.

Fast forward 45 years… Happy New Year and welcome to 2025!

While Mr. Huskey and Mr. Fox are no longer around for me to thank, my hope is that they recognized the impact that they were having at the time. My sense is that they would be very pleased to know that their George Washington Numismatic Association is alive and well, and that two of those YNs from 1980 have continued collecting coins, as well as becoming involved in a number of local, state and national numismatic organizations. In perhaps an interesting twist of fate, I have the privilege of greeting each attendee at GWNA's monthly meetings in my role as Sergeant at Arms. And my friend Tom Uram wears a few hats in the numismatic community, including president of GWNA, the very same local coin club that Mr. Huskey drove me to many years earlier.

Through our professions and each of our circles of acquaintances, Tom and I (and all of you for that matter) have the opportunity to *Pay It Forward* and spread the excitement of numismatics to the next generation… As each of my students leaves their drum lesson, they are invited to pick a coin from a tin full of wheat pennies along with Indian Head and Jefferson nickels. I relish those days when one of my students picks a coin and then curiously asks me, 'Why does this 1943 penny look different than the others?'

So, tell me, how did you get started collecting coins? Who had an impact on you? And how are you *Paying It Forward?*



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SEE US AT PAN TABLES 602 - 608

Rarity ≠ Cost

by Paul Schultz **PAN R 2695**

A common conception that often comes up in coin collecting is that the rarity of an item brings along with it an increased cost. Well-known and frequently collected (or at least frequently examined) American coins seem to substantiate this—a 1909 S VDB Lincoln cent is rarer and more expensive than a 1922-D Lincoln; an 1804 dollar is even more so. But this ignores the economic principle that price is based on both supply *and* demand, not just the supply of the coins available. Sometimes, rare coins can be as affordable as any typical coin.

As if to prove this, a recent and at the same time not-so-recent experience proved the principle in a bit of an extreme. About 13 years ago, I decided to build a coin collection based on my genealogy and coins that my ancestors would have recognized. For all I know, the exact coins I purchase could have been briefly owned by them a few hundred years ago. Since I am a Heinz 57 varieties mutt, I have done a great deal of genealogy, and found that I have ancestors scattered over most of northern Europe. One branch came from the Pfalz/Palatine area of Germany around the 1740s, along the upper Rhine River. So, I decided to collect one coin of each mint in the 1500s-1740s Pfalz region that issued coins.

How much should I be willing to spend before walking away, and possibly needing to wait another 10 or 15 years for a second chance?

As I searched PAN dealers, I quickly found most of the mints represented. Pfalz-Mosbach, Simmern, Valdenz, Zweibruken, and the electoral Pfalz came quickly, within a couple of years. Mainz took 3 years but I added it as an afterthought, since it was a bit out of the territory I wanted. Speyer took 5 years. Worms took 7 years, but I specifically wanted one with a dragon on it, so I was fussy (it was a cool dragon, very different than the other Pfalz coins, and not too many German coins of the period have one).

However, one coin proved to be stubborn and was only obtained last year. The city of Leiningen issued coins, and was well within the region of interest. Sometimes, due to political marriages and estate distributions, Leiningen was owned by a prince from another city. Coins were issued jointly by Leiningen plus Dagsburg, and by Leiningen plus Schaumburg, but the added cities were outside my area of interest. I wanted a coin strictly from Leiningen. There are 13 types from Leiningen, either one-year or two-year issues, so it didn't seem like they should be that hard to find. I was searching the ANA conventions when they came to Pittsburgh, since they had a lot of foreign dealers. I had to extend my search beyond shows to auctions listing foreign coins and auctions listing foreign dealers. I was willing to accept any denomination and any issue of a purely Leiningen coin, but nothing was working. Finally, earlier last year, I found one lonely Leiningen coin listed on an auction site. I debated for days how much I should spend. The coin was in decent condition for wear, but was not evenly struck. This is not unusual for coins from the 1600s and earlier, but is not really desirable and not to be ignored either. Yet I had been looking since 2011 for one of these really rare coins. How much should I be willing to spend before walking away, and possibly needing to wait another 10 or 15 years for a second chance? The coins from the other Palatine cities had been bought for $40-$120 each, but I didn't want to leave the collection incomplete over an additional $50 or $100 beyond what I would have liked to spend. The catalog price in my old pre-covid Krause book was $135. Only one person had bid on the coin, and it was the minimum opening bid. I finally settled on a price of several hundred dollars and entered it the day before the auction closed. I was $10 above the opening bid. The day came, the hour came, and the coin came up. Nothing happened. Nobody sniped me, the price didn't move, and I got a notification that I had won the lot, virtually unopposed. I couldn't believe it!

The coin is pictured below, perhaps looking a bit disappointing to those who collect CACed MS66 Morgan dollars, but this appearance is a reflection of primitive, hand-struck minting techniques that are a study in themselves. Every coin ever minted by such techniques is unique in appearance due to the random and accidental nature of the striking process. I only paid $178 with bid premium, postage, everything. Nevertheless, it is an important economic lesson, and a bit of advice in coin collecting. The coin is obviously very rare, yet so were the people who might want one. Persistence paid off. And so, rarity and age combined do not always translate to an expensive coin. Newer and more common coins can sell for much higher prices. So, if you are interested in coin collecting, and have interest in areas outside of the most common collecting topics, you can experience history, great rarity, very old issues, and quite a challenge, all at a very reasonable price.

8 Pfennig coin of Leiningen
Graf (Count) Ludwig, Lived 1557-1622, Reigned 1597-1622
Minted in 1611 at Grunstadt. Silver, 20 mm, 1.45 g
VF, uneven strike

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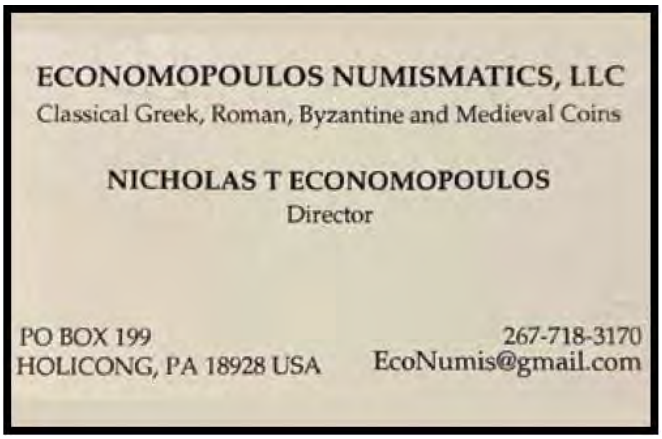


Norway's unique siege coin

by Lawrence C. Korchnak, Ph.D. **PAN L 25**

A two skilling klippe was produced during the siege of Akershus Fortress in Olso, Norway. What follows is the story of the events shaping the conflict that led to it becoming the only siege coin on record from Norway.

In 1513, the Norwegian council offered Frederik I of Denmark the Norwegian throne. Frederik, however, declined and deferred to his nephew Christian II, Duke of Schleswig-Holstein, who he believed would be more acceptable to the Danish lords already in Norway. When Christian II came to rule, one of his main goals was to unite the three Nordic countries under his reign. It failed and he was forced to abdicate in 1523. He fled to the Netherlands where he assembled an army, intending to return and reclaim his hereditary throne. Frederik assumed power in 1524 when a charter was drawn up establishing the boundaries between Frederik and the Norwegian council. The charter established Frederik as "rightful heir to Norway from this day." Under this charter, Frederik I curbed the privileges of the church and the nobility, appointing Danish noblemen to key positions. He increased taxes to finance his military exploits provoking several uprisings among the farmers. Frederik had to suppress several revolts in the ensuing years.

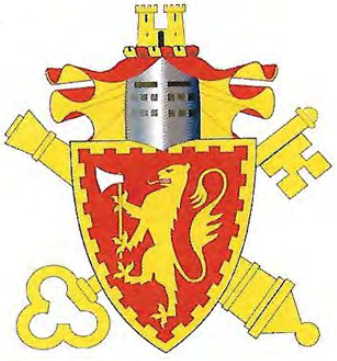
Christian II returned to Norway in 1531 with his mercenaries. On November 26, 1531, Christian wrote: "Know that we, by the grace and mercy of the almighty God, have come to our land and kingdom Norway again, and the bishops of Norway's council…knights, merchants and the common people here in the south have come over to us." Evidence suggests that he must have convinced people to join his cause rather quickly since this account was sent the same month he arrived.

The city of Oslo was first captured by Christian with his army who then proceeded to lay siege to Akershus Fortress. As the siege dragged on, Frederik was forced to act against his nephew by sending a fleet to Norway to defeat Christian's forces. His intentions were clear: "We intend, with our war ships, to send our foot soldiers and people of war into Norway so that we may put down King Christian's war and foot soldiers."

An uncle and nephew at war: Frederik I of Denmark (left) and Christian II (right), Duke of Schleswig-Holstein and King of Denmark

Akershus Fortress, seen below, was commanded by Mogens Gyldenstierne who defended against Christian's soldiers for two years. It was during this time that Christian enlisted the services of the local mint-master who struck the siege coins from church silver because he ran out of funds to pay his troops.

History records that Christian II was given silver by Archbishop Olav Engelbrektsson and other Norwegian bishops because the clergy felt that the preservation of the Catholic faith was at stake along with national sovereignty. Accordingly, they offered church silver to produce a two-



Akershus Fortress (left) and the coat of arms of the commandant (above). The fortress, built around 1300, survived not only the siege of Christian II, but several others in its long history.

skilling coin that is the subject of this article and seen below:

Christian was allowed to borrow minting tools from the commandant of Akershus fortress to strike coins in Oslo if he accepted a ceasefire, which he did. It is believed that the silver came from the church of Hamar where St. Halvard reposed in a silver casket. Records indicate that the mint-master tested the silver in the St. Halvard reliquary. However, the absence of information directly connecting the coin to the silver casket makes it impossible to confirm that it was also a part of the coin's production. However, the two skilling coins that were produced during the siege appear to be made of unusually high-grade silver, over 97%, implying that at least some of the silver from the casket could have been used.

Akershus 2 skilling Klippe

As the siege dragged on, Frederik I told Gyldenstjerne that he would persuade Christian's soldiers to leave Norway. He wanted to avoid shedding the blood of other Christians, and to avoid "a rumor that we were so bloodthirsty and sought to shed the blood of so many pitiful people." The siege ended in May 1532, when Christian agreed to go to Copenhagen after receiving a promise of free travel to negotiate with his uncle. Frederik, however, failed to live up to his promise, and arrested Christian, who spent the last 27 years of his life imprisoned in Copenhagen.

The Akershus two skilling siege klippe is 10mm x 10mm, weighs 1.67g, and it comes with a provenance. I discovered the coin on a Norwegian coin dealer website. After doing some research, I discovered that the two skilling coins from the siege of Akershus Fortress are very rare. I had no knowledge of them despite having written *Siege Coins of the World 1453-1902*. Furthermore, I learned that there are only a few known in private hands. I was asked not to send payment until the invoice was sent because there is law requiring an export license for any Norwegian historical object prior to 1537. Since this tiny piece of Norwegian history was struck in 1532, it fell under the law. The dealer cautioned me that it might take months for a decision and that, even then, exporting such an object had about a twenty percent chance of being approved. Unable to resist the opportunity to acquire this rarity, I went forward with the purchase. The dealer was more than gracious and walked me through the process of submitting the necessary paperwork to obtain the license, including my biographical information. After waiting nearly six weeks, I received word that Norway's Kulturdepartment approved the license. The coin is now in my collection along with the paperwork and provenance. It will certainly be added to the next edition of *Siege Coins of the World 1453-1902*.

Iceland's Althing commemoratives

by Malcolm Johnson **PAN L 185**

The Icelandic Althing (Parliament) is the oldest continuing legislative body in the world and was established in 930 AD. For the most part, it has continuously operated to the present day. In 1930, a sub-committee of the Icelandic Althing commissioned three coins to honor the 1000th anniversary of the Althing. These coins were a 10 Kronur, 5 Kronur and 2 Kronur dated 1930. Although they are collected along with all other Icelandic coins, they are considered semi-official as the coins were never approved by the full Parliament and did not circulate (except for limited circulation of the 2 Kronur). The denominations do not appear on the coins' obverses or reverses, but rather on the edge.

The obverse of the 2 Kronur (top) depicts a woman on a throne with the Thor's Hammer symbol on the left armrest of her throne and a Christian Cross on the right armrest. This seems to be a nod to Iceland's Pagan beginnings and its conversion to Christianity. The reverse design shows the four traditional protector spirits of Iceland, separated by a cross: Griðungur the Bull, Gammur the Eagle, Dreki the Dragon and Bergrisi the Giant. They are surrounded by runes with an overall design depicting a Viking shield. The translated legend reads "Althing was established in 930."

The 5 Kronur coin (middle) is the most meaningful because it depicts an early Icelandic Legislator (Ulfliot the Legislator) with the included lettering translating to "The Land Shall Be Built by Laws." This seems a perfect tie-in to the theme honoring the 1000th anniversary of their Parliament. The reverse depicts Dreki the Dragon and Gammur the Eagle intertwined as guardians of law.

At about 1.77 inches in size, the large 10 Kronur (bottom) is a beautiful design depicting the King of Thule (from a famous German poem by Goethe) on the obverse and the Icelandic Coat of Arms on the reverse. Thule was a legendary land explored by ancient Greeks. It was likely Iceland though historical records conflict. In any event, Goethe's use of the mythical Thule elevates his poem and provides inspiration for this attractive coin.

▲ 2 Kronur - Bronze, 20 grams, 35.5mm
Designer - Tryggvi Magnússon

▲ 5 Kronur - .925 Silver, 22 grams, 35.5mm
Designer - Baldvin Björnsson

▲ 10 Kronur - .925 Silver, 35 grams, 45mm
Designer - Friedrich Wilhelm Hörnlein

The coins pictured above are from the writer's collection

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PAN Table 902

On the road: Combining a love of coins, photography, and travel

by Dave Lombardo PAN R xxx

Many of us have enjoyed coin collecting for years but we also have other hobbies or activities we enjoy. For more than 50 years, I have enjoyed traveling to different places in the US and the world and documenting my travels with photography. I always look to bring back a numismatic souvenir as well.

I had pretty much given up buying US Mint items decades ago until 2012, when I read a Mint announcement offering a silver proof set of the 2012 quarters commemorating five national parks & national sites under the America the Beautiful Quarters program. I immediately started checking which of the sites I had visited, and happily realized I had already been to three of the five sites on the reverses of the quarters and was in the process of planning on visiting another in the coming months! The idea came to me to buy the set and then set up a display at home surrounded by a photo of each site. I had been taking photos of all my travels since the mid-1970s so I started looking through my photos to see if I had photos of the featured reverses of the sites I had already visited, and to my surprise, I did! I had for years done a lot of travels and my work at times brought me to various parts of the country.

The 2012 set consisted of El Yunque National Forest (Puerto Rico—visited 8/1987), Chaco Culture National Historic Park (New Mexico—still to be visited, but was planning a trip 9/2012), Acadia National Park (Maine—visited 11/2011), Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park (Hawaii—trip planned in 8/2012), and Denali National Park and Preserve (Alaska—visited 9/1980).

I had traveled to several of these sites over the years and was planning my future travels to see the two remaining sites within the year, so I bought the set. The only two I had not visited I decided when I went to them, I would try and find a shot of the reverse of the coin as best I could. I had never thought of visiting Chaco but skipping it would leave a "gap" in my display. With my numismatic instincts kicking in, I decided that when I took my planned road trip to the west I would swing by and go visit that site – it was a great place to visit and I'm glad the coin brought me to this fantastic site! The site was off a not so well-maintained dirt road and was literally devoid of anyone else (just the way I like archeological sites to be)! Having a minor in archeology along with a BS in forestry all these wonders of nature intrigued me, and I always went out of my way to visit the less beaten path!

With my numismatic instincts kicking in, I decided when I took my planned road trip to the west I would swing by and go visit Chaco – it was a great place to visit and I'm glad the coin brought me to this fantastic site!

At the end of 2012, I finished visiting and getting photography's of the last reverse type (Chaco Culture National Historic Park) and then put my display together. What fond memories I had doing all this. For Chaco Culture National Historic Park and Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park I worked extra hard to get a photograph exactly as the reverse of coin was. I could only get "close" to that goal since I realized there was some artist prerogative in the coins' final design!

I found that coin collecting once again gave me great joy, with a tad different twist, via combining my favorite activities of travel and photography. Digging through my old photos brought me down memory lane of those honored sites visited in past travels. For not having collected this set, I would never have traveled to Chaco Culture National Historic Park, and that will truly remain one of the highlights of my various travels around the country!

Images courtesy US Mint

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9. 1956D Dime & 1952 Quarter
10. 1973 Bicentennial Medal
11. 10 Buffalo Nickels (a Herd)
12. 1 Ounce Silver Round
13. 1950 Roosevelt Dime & 1960 Washington Quarter
14. CAC Sample Slab
15. 1982 Proof Washington Half Dollar
16. 1893 Columbian Expo Half Dollar
17. Mystery Grab Bag #1
18. 1963 Dime & 1953 Canadian Quarter
19. 1975 Proof Set
20. 1964 Dime & Boston Massacre Medal
21. 1971S Brown Ike
22. Off-Center Lincoln Cent
23. 1949 Franklin Half
24. Mystery Grab Bag #2
25. 2019 Denver Mint Set
26. 1964 Dime & 1965 Half
27. Return to Monticello Nickel Set
28. 1909 VDB and 1894 Cents
29. 1957P & 1960D Dimes
30. 1907S Philippines Dime & 1955 Great Britain Shilling
31. 1964 Kennedy Half
32. 1927 S.L. Quarter
33. Silver Heraldic Art medal
34. 1979 Singapore Mint set
35. Carnegie Sterling Silver Ingot
36. Mystery Grab Bag #3
37. 1964 Quarter & New Mexico Medal
38. NGC Lincoln Sample Slab
39. 1948D Quarter & Cumberland MD Medal
40. 1921 Morgan Dollar
41. LTC John Howard Pewter America's First Medal
42. 1964 Kennedy Half
43. 1954D dime & ?Error Nickel?
44. 1853 Large Cent
45. 1963D Quarter & Paul Revere Medal
46. 12 Indian Cents plus a Buffalo
47. PAN ANACS Sample Slab
48. 1964 Kennedy Half & Nebraska Centennial Medal
49. Lincoln Cent Set 1934-1958
50. Mystery Grab Bag #4

NOTES:

The lure of early copper

by Mark Borckardt *Special to The Clarion*

Early American copper coins offer a vast world of varieties, adding a complex layer to American numismatics that largely disappeared as the US Mint honed its techniques in the late 19th century. While a typical collection of Morgan dollars would require only the 1878 8-feather and 7-feather reverses, even a *basic* set of half cents or large cents requires scads of subtypes, all largely affordable. And while Morgan dollar VAM varieties exploded in the 1960s, early copper collectors were seeking varieties of half cents and large cents long before that. In fact, the earliest variety guides for large cents were published before the first Morgan dollars were minted; the famous Crosby-Levick plate featuring 1793 large cent varieties appeared in the *American Journal of Numismatics* in 1869. That same year, Dr. Edward Maris published a variety guide to 1794 large cents. From there, the lure of early copper varieties grew quickly and continues unabated today with new references appearing regularly.

What is that lure that early copper coinage possesses? Colonial coins, half cents, large cents, and Hard Times tokens are included in the broad field of early copper. Colonial coins span most years of the 17th and 18th centuries. Advanced collectors have spent a lifetime studying and collecting the fascinating colonial American series that features incredible variation and history.

The Philadelphia Mint produced the first half cents and large cents in 1793, and both series continued until 1857. Not including proof-only issues, half cent collectors seek 100 varieties for their collections. Large cent collectors have a greater challenge when searching for every variety from a series that is divided into three major groups identified simply as the early dates (1793-1814), the middle dates (1816-1839), and the late dates (1839-1857).

The early date large cents, also known as the Sheldon series for Dr. William H. Sheldon, the author of the reference book, *Penny Whimsy,* include 355 varieties. The middle dates are known as Newcomb varieties for the variety reference by Howard Rounds Newcomb and include 246 varieties. The Newcomb reference was published in 1944, and more recently, Early American Coppers member John D. Wright published a detailed study of the middle date varieties. The late date cents, also cataloged by Newcomb and more recently by Bob Grellman, offer 387 varieties for the collector.

A complete collection of 988 varieties has never been formed, although a few collectors have come close. Most notable among those is the Western Pennsylvania collector, George Hubbard Clapp (1858-1949), who likely needs no introduction to members of PAN. Clapp donated his primary collection to the American Numismatic Society in 1946 and donated duplicates to Pittsburgh's Carnegie Museum in 1949.

It is likely that Clapp would have joined Early American Coppers had he been living when the club was founded in 1967. The organization that Herbert A. Silberman founded publishes a journal, *Penny-Wise,* that was originally issued six times per year and is now published quarterly. From 1967 through 2024, the club has published 318 issues of *Penny-Wise.* Beginning in 1974, Early American Coppers holds an annual convention and bourse.

The 2025 EAC Convention will be held May 14-18 at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center. Those attending the convention, and all members of PAN are welcome, will enjoy visiting many copper specialist dealers that fill the bourse room with about 60 bourse tables. Educational seminars will be conducted including this author's presentation on die making at the first US Mint. There is no admission charge to for the bourse and educational program.

Members of Early American Coppers will also enjoy free admission to the Carnegie Museum on Friday, including a special display of the Clapp large cent donation to the museum. The annual EAC auction on Saturday evening, open only to current members of EAC, will include a special auction of numismatic literature that will directly benefit the club. Visit www.eacs.org for more.

We hope to welcome every member of PAN at the 2025 EAC Convention in Pittsburgh.

Another unique facet to collecting copper coins is color. All four coins seen above are graded MS 66, but from left to right, the 1855 is Red; the 1845 is Red and Brown; and the 1851 and 1853 are both brown. The 1853 coin also has a purplish haze. While Red coins are typically the most highly valued, each collector has their own personal preference. Building a set with consistent color can be vastly more difficult than say putting together a set of Peace dollars or Buffalo nickels, which typically have consistent color.

Images courtesy Heritage Auctions

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Canada's real silver dollars 1935-1966

by Mark Benvenuto **PAN L 103**

Both the United States and Canada have been pounding out one-ounce silver bullion coins for decades now, which folks generally liken to modern-day silver dollars. Admittedly, the Canadian silver Maple Leaves have a $5 denomination on them, but that doesn't cut into their silver value in any way. Yet there was a time when the Royal Canadian Mint put out actual, circulating silver dollar coins—what we can call real silver dollars. Building a collection of them today can be a fun, educational endeavor.

1935—the one-year issue?

The United States Mint stopped minting silver dollars—our Peace dollars—in 1935, the same year that Canada got into the game. The first of the Canadian dollar coins weighed in at 23.33 grams, a bit less than its U.S. counterpart, with an 80% silver–20% copper alloy. As well, this first year of issue might have been considered a commemorative, or some other form of special issue, as it portrayed the king surrounded by Latin legends that noted his 25th year of reign. Usually, wording like that indicates a special issue, often a one-year issue. But perhaps obviously, this would become the beginning of a series.

In an interesting twist, the Canadian silver dollars never took their name from the obverse design, meaning they were apparently never called something like "Georgies." Rather, the two figures in a canoe that feature so prominently on the reverse are where the name "Voyageur dollar" comes from. These amazingly tough traders made a mark on a growing Canada, and indeed the world, with the vast amount of raw materials they brought out of the wilderness over decades.

This first Canadian silver dollar saw a mintage of 428,707 pieces, which makes it a fairly common piece today. Prices are routinely not all that high, unless we opt for a slabbed, high-end mint state example.

Multiple years of the kings

It turns out that the same bust of King George V was used on the 1936 Voyageur dollars, although the legends underwent a change to what we might call the usual inscriptions on British coins of the day.

By 1937 it was King George VI who was on the throne, and who was basically on all the coins of Britain and its empire, Canada included. His portrait, seen right, is one that is quite different, without the crown and robes of office. The overall effect though, is an eye-catching one.

A couple of interesting developments occurred during the years in which George VI had his image prominently on the silver dollars of Canada. While the 1937 dollar is quite common, the 1938 silver dollar mintage plunges to the tune of 90,304 pieces with even smaller mintages for some of the other George VI coins. In general, the mintage totals of Canadian coins are lower than those of their United States counterparts; but this is simply because there are less folks in Canada to use them. The prices of these Canadian silver dollars are not absurd, but we shouldn't expect a cost that is simply connected to the melt value of the silver in it. While the 1936 and 1937 dollars started out as an affordable date set, we quickly run into several pieces that cost hundreds in Mint state. The series doesn't quite have a showstopper like the American 1934-S Peace dollar, which costs thousands in MS 63, but there aren't as many Canadian silver dollars that can be had for $100 in Mint state as there are Peace dollars, or Morgan dollars for that matter. Moreover, there are some significant varieties to the George VI silver dollars that would make a variety set even more challenging.

The prices of these Canadian silver dollars are not absurd, but we shouldn't expect a cost that is simply connected to the melt value of the silver in it.

The second intriguing development among the silver dollars of George VI is that in 1939 the king visited Canada, and the reverse of the silver dollar was used as a platform to commemorate the visit. Yes, we can say the Voyageurs paddled away for that year, but it's a bit more straightforward to state that the central block of the Parliament buildings, seen right, replaced it. Above the image is the Latin phrase, "Fide Svorvm Regnat." For those of us who have managed to forget most or all of our school-days Latin, it translates to, "He reigns by the faith of his people." The number of these minted was high enough that today they are downright

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signed lower right
The American Indians called the January full moon Full Wolf Moon, named from wolf packs roaming in the dead of Winter. This is a time to protect loved ones, family, and clan. The moon is rising outside, but inside there is the sign of life indicated by the lit first-floor window and the wisps of smoke from the chimneys. As it is with my night scenes, I imagine myself being "nighted", not knighted. I finished the painting by signing it "Sir Bradley Hendershot" in honor of my "nighthood".

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The Voyageur crew made its return in 1945, as there were a few years in the series in which none were produced. For the remainder of King George's reign, there are some slim years within the series, which means a few years in which today's costs go up. But there is also another commemorative within this timeframe. In 1949 what often gets called the Newfoundland commemorative was released. Whether or not the ship dominating the reverse is historically accurate or not is one of those fun subjects of debate among enthusiasts of all things nautical. The official Mint tally though is high enough that one of these could easily sail into most collections.

A young queen on the throne

In 1953 it was the young, newly crowned Queen Elizabeth who saw her face on the coins of Britain, and of all the lands associated with it, Canada included. As with those silver dollars sporting her father's visage, there are some rare dates among her silver dollars. There are also three well-known commemoratives, meaning the British Columbia piece of 1958, the 1964 piece issued honoring Charlottetown, Quebec, and the Canada goose of 1967, this one part of a larger series commemorating the centennial of the Confederation. The first has some lasting fame, since the totem pole on the reverse includes

Images courtesy NGC

an image the native First Peoples of the area associated with death. Oddly, this has apparently made it a collector favorite for years. The goose dollar has acquired a certain fame because there is supposedly a "diving goose" variety created by a misaligned set of dies. If you have never seen one, well, you are not alone.

Switching from silver to nickel

The 1960s was a decade in which the silver disappeared from the circulating coins of several countries. Most collectors are aware that U.S. dimes and quarters saw this vanishing act in 1965. For Canada's dollar coins, the silver made its exit in 1968, when nickel took its place. What can be called the nickel dollars make another interesting series of Canadian dollar coins to collect. But the switch from silver to nickel means that the dollars of 1935–1966 become a classic series of Canadian silver, one that can be a worthwhile collecting challenge.

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Are San Francisco Women quarters the secret to getting rich? An eBay analysis

by Matt Campbell **PAN L 160**

Another Christmas has come and gone. My nieces and nephews received plenty of toys that beep, spin, and whirl, but I have carried on my grandfather's tradition of giving coins. While my grandfather gave US proof and mint sets which unfortunately never appreciated in value, I improved the tradition and have been gifting a mix of one-ounce silver eagles, Britannias, Libertads, kangaroos, pandas and more over the years. The coins from years ago have nearly doubled in value! My four nieces and nephews each have a small personal treasury of silver that will continue to grow.

With the launch of the American Women quarters program in 2022, we decided to start Whitman folders for my two nieces. There was not an expectation that these coins would increase in value, but coin collecting can just be educational and inspirational, not always an investment. We intended to pick the quarters out of circulation, but the fiendish Whitman folder included the San Francisco-minted quarters. These business-strike quality coins are struck in small numbers for collectors, not for circulation. With D quarters proving hard to find on a Christmas deadline, we bought PDS sets of the 2024 quarters on eBay for $18.95. I was hesitant to pay for ordinary P and D pocket change, though perhaps the S quarters will be worth something in the future. A quick Google search didn't turn up mintages for the 2024-S or 2023-S quarters, but only a little over 300,000 of each 2022-S quarter were made.

All of this leads to the question of this article—could a few bucks actually be made selling PDS sets of the women quarters online? For analysis, one seller found on eBay has sold 1444 2024 sets—that's the PDS for each design (Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, Hon. Patsy Takemoto Mink, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, Celia Cruz, Zitkala-Ša) or 15 quarters. Assuming this company sold 1444 sets at the current price of $18.95, that's $27,436 in revenue. The next step is to start subtracting the costs. The single biggest cost is the coins. The most efficient way—as far as I know—is to purchase a PDS roll of each design from the US Mint for $63. So, a single complete 15-coin set assembled from these rolls would cost $7.88. I would have used my credit card and the 2% cash back would have lowered my cost to $7.72. However, if we bothered our local banks to order rolls of quarters that we could exchange for a $10 bill, we could save quite a bit. However, it seems that since the Women Quarters program launched, rolls of San Francisco quarters *can't* be purchased by themselves, only along with P and D rolls of the same design. So, we're forced to pay a markup for face-value P and D rolls to get that S roll (or if we count the P and D rolls at only face, then the S roll cost $43). The bundling of the PDS rolls was a frustrating change from the America the Beautiful program. Digging on the Mint website showing a 2021 Tuskegee Airmen S-roll still available for purchase individually for $19.75.

Images courtesy US Mint

Continuing with our analysis, after taking 1,444 sets' worth of quarter cost or $11,147.68, our ledger decreases from $27,436 to $16,288. Next is eBay's cut. First, there's $263.40 for a store subscription for twelve months (which was worth it because it lowered the final value fee to 9% from 13.25%, or we spent $263.40 to save $1,166.03 in final value fees); then final value fees of $2,469.24 at 9%; and finally a fixed 30 cents per transaction or another $433.20. eBay at some point started processing payments itself, cutting out PayPal, and processing fees are now included in the final value fee. In the end, eBay's cut was $3,165, or about 11.5% of our gross sales. That's pretty fair.

Our gross sales of $27,436 have now been sliced in half to $13,122.48. Still, this figure looks great! USPS shipping will take a big bite out—got to fund those pensions. Let's figure these 1,444 lightweight little packages cost $3.25 a piece or $4,693. We also have to account for bubble mailers, paper for shipping labels, tape, and coin envelopes (can't have quarters rattling around loose in a mailer)—a quick look around on Amazon reveals those supplies in the numbers we're using would be around $300.

After all costs have been considered, our profit is now $8,129, or $5.62 on each PDS set sold. The last thing to consider is how much time this all took. The average Pennsylvania hourly wage is $24.77 according to ZipRecruiter. If this project took less than 328 hours, or about two months of full-time labor, then we're doing quite well. Hypothetically, let's say it takes 3 minutes to ship out a package, and the initial unwrapping and sorting of all the rolls (nearly 550 of them!) took a week, that's 112 hours of work or an hourly rate of $72.58. Let's say after the week to set up the sets, our 1444 sets sold at about 4 a day, that's only 15 minutes of work a day. Even though this self-employment gig wouldn't come up with dental insurance, it seems like a great endeavor!

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Can I get your "John Hancock" ?
Autographed bank notes add a unique touch

by Michael V. Hicks **PAN R 3393**

For numismatists and particularly paper money collectors, collecting the "John Hancocks" of Treasury secretaries and others can be a scenic route to add to numismatic travels already in progress. All of the paper bills in our wallets include the engraved Hancocks of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Treasurer, but adding an authentic ink autograph adds a new wrinkle to the hunt.

So, what does it mean when someone asks you for your "John Hancock?" Most people remember John Hancock for his large and stylish signature on the United States Declaration of Independence, so much so that the term "John Hancock" or "Hancock" has become a nickname in the United States for one's signature. According to legend, John Hancock stated that he "signed his name largely and clearly so that King George could read it without his spectacles," but this story originated years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Hancock was an American Founding Father, merchant, statesman, and prominent patriot of the American Revolution. He served in many different offices, including as the first and third governor of Massachusetts, the fourth and 13th president of the Continental Congress, and the first president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress. He was also instrumental in forming our government and shaping our country.

Nothing is more personal than a handwritten autograph; this is why so many people collect autographs. An autograph from a celebrity, former president, athlete, or musician usually catches a collector's attention, but the signature does not actually have to come from someone famous, it could be from anyone that you respect or admire.

Notes with a handwritten autograph alway feel much more personal because you know that the person signing the bank note handled the note themselves before it was added into your personal collection

Modern bank notes are signed by both the secretary of the treasury as well as the treasurer. Of course, those signatures are facsimiles. Notes with a handwritten autograph always feel much more personal because you know that the person signing the bank note handled the note themselves before it was added into your personal collection, and the author has assembled a collection of bank notes autographed by Treasury secretaries. Autographs give us a unique connection to the person and their past, present, or even future accomplishments.

Collecting autographs, much like collecting coins, provides the thrill of the hunt for that specific autograph missing from your collection and the joy of finding it.

What makes our signature unique?

It has been scientifically proven that no one signs their signature identically every time, with many factors influencing our ability to duplicate our signature. These factors could include the following:

- The involuntary muscular contractions in the hand, arm, and even the shoulder which affect how we hold the writing instrument (i.e., the angle, grip pressure, contact area)
- The length of the stroke from starting point to ending point and any breaks in the writing
- The writing instrument, for example, a pen can dispense different amounts of ink given the angle and pressure applied and the age of the writing instrument
- The writing surface, for example if the object is smooth or porous and if the surface will allow the ink to adhere

Because no two signatures are identical, experts can be utilized to authenticate the signature as being legitimate or a forgery. A signature is authentic if it meets an above average number of the factors listed below, compared against a known authentic sample of the signature. Even though signatures may look very similar, handwriting examiners evaluate a signature based upon the following features: the size and slope of the writing, pen pressure, pen lifts, spacing between letters, position of the writing based upon a baseline, text height relationship, and the beginning or ending strokes.

The practice of collecting autographs helps to preserve the past, as time passes records become lost and what is common today becomes historical in the future. Time affects the demand for autographs because the more time that passes, the more difficult it is to find or obtain the autograph.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing

So, what's the history behind bank notes and the two John Hancocks on them? Bank notes are produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which was created to help fund the Civil War. In 1862, Congress passed the Legal Tender Act, which authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to issue paper currency in lieu of coins due to the lack of funds needed to support the conflict. The paper notes were essentially government IOUs and were called Demand Notes because they were payable "on demand" in coins at Treasury facilities. At this time the government had no facility to print paper money, so a private firm produced the Demand Notes in sheets of four. These sheets were then sent to the Treasury Department so they could be signed and then the sheets were cut by hand.

The Second Legal Tender Act (July 11, 1862; 12 Stat. 532) authorized the Treasury Secretary to engrave and print notes at the Treasury Department; the design featured line engraving, geometric patterns, a Treasury seal, and engraved signatures, all of which were used to aid in counterfeit deterrence.

Initially, the currency processing operations in the Treasury were not formally organized. When Congress created the Office of Comptroller of the Currency and National Currency Bureau in 1863, currency-processing operations became the "First Division, National Currency Bureau." Although enacted by the Second Legal Tender Act in 1862, It was not until 1874 that the "Bureau of Engraving and Printing" was officially recognized in congressional legislation with specific allocated operating funds for the fiscal year of 1875.

It is a government agency within the United States Department of the Treasury, it designs and produces a variety of security products for the United States government, most notable of which is Federal Reserve Notes for the Federal Reserve, the nation's central bank. The BEP does not produce coins; all coinage is produced by the United States Mint. The BEP has production facilities in Washington, D.C., and Fort Worth, Texas.

The current Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Mr. Leonard R. Olijar, operates with general direction from the United States Secretary of the Treasury, providing leadership and strategic management to ensure that all operational activities are accomplished and held to the highest standards.

Secretary of the United States Treasury

One of the two signatures on bank notes comes from the United States Secretary of the Treasury. This official is the head of the United States Department of the Treasury and is the chief financial officer of the federal government of the United States. The secretary serves as the principal advisor to the president of the United States on all matters pertaining to economic and fiscal policy. The secretary is, by custom, a member of the president's cabinet and, by law, a member of the National Security Council.

Under the Appointments Clause of the United States Constitution, the officeholder is nominated by the president and, following a confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Finance, confirmed by the United States Senate.

The secretary of the Treasury, along with the secretary of State, the secretary of Defense, and the attorney general are generally regarded as the four most important Cabinet officials, due to the size and importance of their respective departments.

The secretary is responsible for forming and recommending domestic and international financial, economic, and tax policy, participating in the formation of financial policies that have general significance on the economy, and managing the public debt. The secretary oversees the activities of the department in carrying out its major law enforcement responsibilities; in serving as the financial agent for the United States government; and in manufacturing coins and currency. The Chief Financial Officer of the government, the secretary serves as Chairman of the President's Economic Policy Council, Chairman of the Boards and Managing Trustee of the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds, and as U.S. Governor of the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

The secretary along with the treasurer of the United States must sign Federal Reserve notes before they can become legal tender. The secretary also manages the United States Emergency Economic Stabilization fund.

Treasurer of the United States

The second "John Hancock" on bank notes comes from the Treasurer of the United States. On July 29, 1775, long before the Department

▲ *Eva Adams was the 30th director of the US Mint and was appointed by President John F. Kennedy. She would serve from October 1961 to August 1969. She presided over the Mint during the challenging transition from silver to clad coinage.*

of the Treasury existed, the Second Continental Congress established the Treasury Office to manage revolutionary wartime finances. The position received its current name on May 14, 1777.

The Treasurer of the United States is an officer in the United States Department of the Treasury who serves as the custodian and trustee of the federal government's collateral assets and the supervisor of the department's currency and coinage production functions.

By law, the treasurer is the depositary officer of the United States regarding deposits of gold, special drawing rights, and financial gifts to the Library of Congress. The treasurer also directly oversees the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) and the United States Mint, which respectively print and mint U.S. currency and coinage. In connection with the influence of federal monetary policy on currency and coinage production, the treasurer liaises on a regular basis with the Federal Reserve.

The duty perhaps most widely associated with the treasurer of the United States is affixing a facsimile signature to all Federal Reserve notes. Federal law requires both the treasurer's signature and the treasury secretary's countersignature for Federal Reserve notes to be considered legal tender.

Moreover, the Treasurer serves as a senior advisor and representative of the Treasury Department on behalf of the secretary in the areas of community development and public engagement.

Responsibility for oversight of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) and the United States Mint was later assigned to the treasurer in 1981. In 1994, the treasurer was also named National Honorary Director of the U.S. Savings Bonds Campaign and therefore assigned the task of promoting—as opposed to managing—the program. More recently, the requirement of the United States Senate confirmation for the appointment was dropped in August 2012.

Sculptors / Engravers / Mint Directors

Collecting "John Hancocks" can be applied to coins as well as bank notes. Coins are mass-produced objects we handle every day, and they wouldn't exist without their economic function. But coins can also be viewed as miniature works of art, because, like all works of art, they arise from the vision of their creators and are implemented by the available technology of their times. Collecting the autographs of US Mint sculptors, engravers, and directors can connect collectors with the artists and people behind the coins.

All American coins begin with an act of Congress. Legislation establishes the parameters for the coin's design—sometimes there could be a general theme or sometimes a specific requirement. The United States Mint then solicits designs from two groups: Sculptor / Engravers who are full-time government employees, and members of the Artistic Infusion Program, who are engaged on a project-by-project basis. After review by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee and the Commission of Fine Arts, and with input from United States Mint personnel, the Secretary of the Treasury selects the coin's design.

The author's collection includes bank notes autographed by current and past Mint engravers including Donald Everhart II and John Mercanti as well as the past and current directors of the Mint, including the present director, Ms. Ventris C. Gibson (seen below).

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The Clarion is seeking articles for publication. Articles can be on any mainly numismatic subject. Articles that have not been previously published are preferred. Not a writer of Oscar Wilde stature? Don't worry—we can help! Share your article with us at the e-mail address below.

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Filings from the Rim
PAN News

Fall PAN show 2024 exhibit awards

PAN presented 13 competitive exhibit awards during the fall 2024 PAN convention. Winners were announced at the exhibit awards presentation Saturday, October 19. PAN thanks the exhibitors and judges who participated in this year's educational exhibits program.

Competitive awards in four exhibit classes were presented. Class winners were:

Class 1: United States Coins

First—Alivia Rawson, Young Numismatist, "National Parks of America."
Second—Michael Hicks, "An Introduction to Liberty Seated Half Dimes 1837-1873."

Class 2: Foreign Coins

First—Thomas Uram, "Canadian Commemorative Silver Dollars."
Second—Jeff Rose, "The 1797 British Two Pence."
Third—Malcolm Johnson, "Iceland's Althing Commemoratives."

Class 3: Numismatic Paper

Third— Michael Hicks, "'Get the Lead Out; Palmer Lead Mining Company Script."

Class 4: Exonumia

First— Richard Crosby, "Selection of Souvenir Badges on Our President Abraham Lincoln."
Second— Cindy Calhoun, "Fighting Fire with Education."
Third—Michael Hicks, "Explosion Control Script 'Tokens that Bring the Boom.'"

There were also four non-competitive exhibits entered:

—Tyler Vicker, "Kennedy Silver Coins/Bullion."
—Brett Irick, "Escudo Gold"
—Eric Vicker, "Western PA National Notes."
—Brett Irick, "Fraternal Order of Eagles."

Visit pancoins.org for info on how to become an exhibitor! Exhibiting is a wonderful way to enrich your collecting experience and connect with your fellow numismatists.

Malcolm Johnson (center, left) receives his award certificate from PAN volunteers (left to right) Jeff Rose, Brett Irick, and Pat McBride.

PAN Raffle - Double Eagle & ASE Winners

Past October Show Gold & ASE Winners

Gold
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ASE's
S.Behrik, Freeport PA
C. Gentzler, Littlestown PA
C. Calhoun, Sheperdstown WV
P. Bauer, Harrisburg PA

Next Raffle October 2025 Show

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PAN Club Member News

North Hills Coin Club

Club Member attendance and participation in presentations for regular meetings has been robust. The club has a new meeting location at Saint John Neumann Church. The address is 2230 Rochester Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15237. New meeting time is 5:30pm to 8:30pm. The club meets monthly on the second Monday except December.

Festive members and spouses enjoyed the Christmas Party December 9 at Clark's Restaurant. Fine eats and great company for all! There was even a "theft" or two in a coin game played by members.

The club joins the numismatic family in sadness over the passing of Rich Jewell, who was a founding member of the North Hills Coin Club in 2014. Rich contributed in so many ways; he will be greatly missed. A book in his honor is being placed at Northland Public Library.

South Hills Coin Club

The SHCC meets the second Tuesday of every month in the Council Chamber next to the library in the Bethel Park Municipal Building at 5100 West Library Road, Bethel Park. New members and guests are welcome.

Contact Dale Abel at dale827@verizon.net or call 412-854-4022 for more information.

George Washington Numismatic Society

The club held its annual holiday party December 9 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Washington with members enjoying dinner and a coin-a-rama. The club also had a special meeting in November at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum, where members enjoyed dinner, a viewing of the famous Hawaii Five-O 1913 V nickel episode, and a trolley ride (see members posing in front of a PCC streetcar below).

The club has a new meeting schedule and location. The club now meets the third Wednesday each month. Meetings will now be held the Encore by the Lake retirement community (243 McDowell Lane, Canonsburg, PA 15317). Meetings include refreshments, door prizes, raffles, and a presentation by a club member or special guest. For more, e-mail silvercharlee@aol.com.

Hershey Coin Club

The Hershey Coin Club, Inc. held its annual Holiday Banquet on December 22, 2024. More than 50 members and guests enjoyed dinner, a 50/50 raffle, and a members-only auction.

The Hershey Coin Club, Inc. regular meetings are held the third Monday each month at the Campbelltown Volunteer Fire Company banquet hall at 7pm in the months of January-June and September-November with a holiday party in December. Meeting includes show and tell items, invited speakers, door prizes and an auction. Fire Hall address: 2818 Horseshoe Pike (Route 322) Palmyra, PA 17078.

Harrisburg Coin Club

The club meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Lemoyne Borough Building (510 Herman Avenue, Lemoyne, PA 17043).

For more information, visit harrisburgcoinclub.com or e-mail harrisburgcoinclub@gmail.com.

Western Pennsylvania Numismatic Society

WPNS meets the first Tuesday of the month at Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church (3319 West Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216). Contact the club at wpns1878@ zoominternet.net for more information. Doors open at 7pm with the meeting beginning at 7:30pm. Every meeting features a detailed presentation as well as a show and tell. Guests and new members are welcome!

Call for club news

PAN seeks to support its members and clubs by including club information in The Clarion. Please send us your news, meeting locations, and photos to panclarioneditor@yahoo.com before April 14 for inclusion in the Spring Clarion, which will hit mail boxes in early May. Photos are worth a thousand words—help show collectors everything they're missing out on staying home!

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